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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/828,664

04/21/2004

Tsutomu Watanabe

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4931

8933 7590 07/28/2008

DUANE MORRIS, LLP  
IP DEPARTMENT  
30 SOUTH 17TH STREET  
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103-4196

EXAMINER

PINHEIRO, JASON PAUL

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3714

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

07/28/2008

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/828,664	<b>Applicant(s)</b> WATANABE, TSUTOMU	
	<b>Examiner</b> JASON PINHEIRO	<b>Art Unit</b> 3714	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 July 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 7-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 7-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                     | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)          | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

### DETAILED ACTION

1. After the amendment filed 07/09/2008 claims 1-6 were cancelled and claims 7-9 were newly added. Therefore claims 7-9 are pending.

### ***Claim Objections***

2. Claims 7 and 9 are objected to because of the following informalities:

Regarding claims 7 and 9: "judging to be"pass" if said... "Should be changed to --judging to be pass if said...--

Appropriate correction is required.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 7-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Parappa The Rapper (Herein referred to as Parappa)

Parappa is a game release by Sony Computer Entertainment, Incorporated in 1997 for the Playstation game console. Each button on the player's controller corresponds to a word, which when combined with the other buttons creates a sentence. Each level provides the player with different words, and different melodies that correspond to the words. The game provides small

portions of spoken vocals that are triggered when the appropriate buttons are pressed. Provided for the player is a rhythm bar, which shows the player what order to press the buttons and at what time to push the buttons in order to provide the correct words in a sequence of words. Pressing the buttons in the correct order with the correct timing (the difference between the time the game displays the command to press a certain button and the time the player actually presses that button), provides an intelligible rap while pressing the buttons in an incorrect order or with lousy timing provides the player with an unintelligible rap, which has a different pitch than if the buttons are pressed in the correct order within the right time (Wikipedia, Lines 8-10). The player is given an overall rating dependent on the accuracy and timing of the player's button actuation which is based on the difference between the time the game commands the player to push a button and the time the player actually presses that button, and if the player's rating is high enough the player is allowed to proceed to the next level. If the player presses the buttons within a predetermined time period the game's rating meter will raise from "Good" to "Cool" indicating the player's accumulated evaluation, also if the player does not press the game buttons within the predetermined time period the rating meter will lower to "Bad" or "Awful" dependent on how often the player does not press the buttons within the predetermined time (GameFAQ's, Section (IV) (Game play), Section 3 (Page 5)).

***Response to Arguments***

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 7-9 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JASON PINHEIRO whose telephone number is (571)270-1350. The examiner can normally be reached on M - F 8:00 AM - 4 PM;.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Pezzuto can be reached on (571) 272-6996. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 3714

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Robert E Pezzuto/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3714

/J. P./

Examiner, Art Unit 3714